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August 24, 2006

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Bryce Yokomizo, Director
Department of Public Social Services

Bruce Chernof, MD
Director and Chief Medical Office
Department of Health Services

**SUBJECT: STATUS REPORT ON THE MEDICAL FIELD TRAINING FOR
CalWORKs PARTICIPANTS (BOARD ORDER #74-B – MARCH 7, 2006)**

This is to provide you with a status report on the Medical Field Training Program for CalWORKs participants.

On March 7, 2006, you instructed the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) to work in concert with the Department of Health Services (DHS), the Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD), Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) and the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) to create a customized program in the medical field for CalWORKs participants that will lead to employment within DHS. Pursuant to your instructions, DHS and DPSS, along with the adult schools and community colleges, identified three positions to focus on: 1) Certified Nursing Attendant; 2) Pharmacy Technician; and 3) Hospital Custodian.

We are pleased to report that the initial phase of the Medical Field Training Program was implemented on August 15, 2006 with the beginning of the referral process for the Certified Nursing Attendant Program. DPSS' GAIN Services Workers are screening participants for likely candidates who are interested in the position and will refer them to the appropriate school in their area for training which will begin in September. The Certified Nursing Attendant training is offered by four schools in the LACCD system, ten LACOE Regional Occupational Program schools, and 16 LAUSD Adult Schools.

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The Hospital Custodian referral and training will begin in October 2006 and training will be provided at the East LA Skills Center.

The training for the Pharmacy Technician is currently on hold due to examination and re-certification requirements at DHS. Consideration is being given to require a national certification process, rather than the current State certification process.

We will provide our next report in February 2007, which will include the first actual employment figures for the program.

BY:BC:dy

c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
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Superintendent, LACOE
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